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NEWS AND NOTES.

Florian Cajori, Chairman of the Committee.

New subscribers to the Monthly are invited to read the reflections of Editor Finkel, in the December issue, on the nineteen years' history of this journal.

The spring meeting of the Chicago Section of the American Mathematical Society will be held at the University of Chicago, on Friday and Saturday March 21, 22.

At the annual meeting of the American Mathematical Society in Cleveland, Professor E. B. Van Vleck, of the University of Wisconsin, was elected president. The next summer meeting of the Society, including a colloquium, will be held at Madison, Wis., early in September, 1913.

We notice with regret the death of Professor Wilhelm Fiedler of the Polytechnicum in Zürich, known for his work in geometry and his translations into German of the books of George Salmon.

In this country have occurred the deaths of Oliver Clinton Wendell, professor of astronomy at Harvard University, of Eben Loomis who was for half a century connected with the Nautical Almanac Office, and of Edwin Smith who was connected with the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey since 1870.

The first part of Euler's *Commentationes* on elliptic integrals has just appeared as Vol. XX of the first series of Euler's *Opera Omnia.*

Professor Jacques Hadamard has been elected a member of the Paris Academy of Sciences in the section of geometry, in succession to the late Henri Poincaré.

On January 19, 1913, occurred in Denver the death of Robert Gauss, who had been long connected with the *Denver Republican.* On the same day died also his brother, Charles H. Gauss, of St. Louis. They were sons of Eugene Gauss, and grandsons of the mathematician, Carl Friedrich Gauss.

Announcement was made of the death, on December 7, of Sir George Howard Darwin, Plumian professor of astronomy and experimental philosophy at the University of Cambridge. He was a leading authority on tidal phenomena. He was president of the fifth international congress of mathematicians which was held in Cambridge University, August 21 to 28, 1912. In his address before the Congress he spoke of the Cambridge School of applied mathematics and its work during the last century.

"The Cambridge School of Mathematics" is the title of an historical article by W. W. Rouse Ball in the *Mathematical Gazette* for July, 1912. Without entering much into critical and philosophical inquiries, Ball tells in a pleasant way of mathematical research and teaching at Cambridge from the time of Tonstall, Recorde and John Dee to the present time. This number of the *Gazette* is adorned by fine page portraits of Sir Isaac Newton, Sir George Darwin, Sir Joseph Larmor, Professor E. W. Hobson and Professor A. E. H. Love.

The collected papers of SOPHUS LIE are to be published by the firm of B. G. Teubner in seven volumes, under the editorship of Friedrich Engel. Subscription prior to April 1, 1913, is at the reduced rate of about 160 marks. The first two volumes will be on geometry, the next two on differential equations, the two following on transformation groups, while the last volume will be reserved for the publication of residual manuscripts.

At the Cleveland meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science held last December, Professor F. R. MOULTON, of the department of astronomy at the University of Chicago, was elected secretary of Section A, to succeed Professor G. A. Miller, of the University of Illinois, who had held this position since 1907.

After this year, mathematics is to be an elective subject in the College of Science, Literature, and Arts at the University of Minnesota. For the last five years, college algebra and trigonometry have been required of those students who entered the college without having had both higher algebra and solid geometry. Before that time, one year of work in college mathematics was required of all candidates for the Bachelor of Arts degree.

A most interesting account of HENRI POINCARÉ and his work, from the pen of Professor F. R. Moulton, appeared in the December number of *Popular Astronomy.* Another sketch which touches a different phase of the work of Poincaré appeared in *Nature* (London) of November 28, 1912.

The University of Oregon has begun the publication of a monthly, called the *Extension Monitor.* In the first number (January, 1913) Professor E. E. DE COU gives a brief account of the work of the international commission for the improvement of mathematical teaching.

Professor W. E. BYERLY, of Harvard University, will become professor emeritus at the close of the present academic year. He is well known for his texts on the calculus and on Fourier's series and spherical harmonics, as well as for his unusual ability as a lecturer and teacher.

Isis is the name of a new international journal to be devoted to the history of science, under the editorship of GEORGE SARTON, D.Sc., of Wondelgem-lez-Gand in Belgium. On the "Comité de patronage" are 30 names, including those of two Americans, JACQUES LOEB, of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, and DAVID EUGENE SMITH, of Columbia University.

The Royal Society of Edinburgh is preparing to celebrate the tercentenary of the first important British contribution to mathematical science, namely the invention of logarithms by NAPIER of Merchiston in 1614. What form the celebration will take is not yet announced, but probably a bird's eye view of mathematical progress along the lines of algebra will be one of the features.

In the students' section of the mathematics club of the University of Illinois the monthly programs for the present academic year include the following papers: Errors in mathematical literature, by Professor G. A. Miller; Construction of regular polygons, by E. A. Kircher; The practical use of the slide rule, by C. R. Horrell; Mathematical induction, by C. C. Yen; The Hindu-Arabic numerals, by F. A. Murray; The calculation of π, by Miss Peach Andrews; The theory of the gyroscope, by Miss Mildred Seyster; Mathematical models, by Professor A. Emch.

Professor Favaro, of Padua, at the October meeting of the Italian society for the advancement of science, gave an account of an unpublished translation of the writings of ARCHIMEDES, found among the Galileoan manuscripts in the Library of Florence. The translation was made by Vincenzio Viviani, a pupil of Galileo, and was apparently intended for publication.

The courses in mathematics to be offered at the University of Chicago in the summer session, 1913, include the following: By Professor E. H. MOORE, Seminar on point set theory, Fourier's series, Trigonometry; by Professor OSKAR BOLZA, Linear integral equations, Theory of functions of a complex variable; by Professor F. R. MOULTON, Theory of differential equations, Descriptive astronomy; By Professor H. E. SLAUGHT, Differential equations, Integral calculus; by Professor J. W. A. YOUNG, Differential calculus, Critical review of secondary mathematics; by Professor E. J. WILCZYNSKI, Theory of equations, Analytic geometry; by Professor G. A. BLISS, Projective geometry, College algebra; by Professor A. C. LUNN, Applied mathematics, Graphical analysis; by Professor W. D. MACMILLAN, Celestial mechanics, Observational astronomy.

The United States Bureau of Education has just published a *Bibliography of the Teaching of Mathematics* covering the period from 1900 to 1912, by David Eugene Smith and Charles Goldziher. This Bulletin gives 1,849 titles of books and articles on the teaching of mathematics that have appeared since 1900. The Bulletin will be sent gratis upon application to the United States Commissioner of Education, Washington, D. C.

Some of our readers may not agree with all the conclusions reached by the author of "Minimum Courses in Engineering Mathematics" in this issue. It is needless to say that the Editors assume no responsibility for the views expressed in any signed article. They will welcome the expression of dissenting views in the interest of helpful discussion along this line.

Since the last issue, Northwestern University has been added to the list of institutions contributing to the subsidy fund of the MONTHLY, making the total number now ten universities and two colleges. Professor D. R. CURTISS becomes a member of the Editorial Board whose assistance will be greatly valued.

We are again unable to issue the MONTHLY on time, and it may require still another month for the printer to catch up with the schedule. This number is also larger than normal, though we shall be pleased if subscription returns may make it possible to continue this larger size.